

CLAIMS

- [001] A program-controlled domestic appliance, especially a cooker, washing machine or drier provided with a charging opening which is arranged in the front side of its housing (2) and which can be sealed by means of a door (5), and a door handle (7) preferably fixed to a door frame (6) or a handle area integrated into a door frame (6) by which means the door (5) can be moved with the hand, as well as a visual display for the closure state of the door and controllable illumination means (9) internal to said device to characterize operating states, characterised in that the door handle (7) is provided with at least one illuminating means (9) or is connected optically to at least one illuminating means (12) so that its light can be emitted forwards from the door handle (7) or from the handle area.
- [002] The domestic appliance according to claim 1, characterised in that the illuminating means (9, 12) is/are light-emitting diodes (9).
- [003] The domestic appliance according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the illuminating means (9) are integrated in the door handle (7).
- [004] The domestic appliance according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the illuminating means (12) is/are arranged in the housing (2) of the domestic appliance and is/are optically connected to windows (11) in the door handle (7).
- [005] The domestic appliance according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the visual signals emitted by the illuminating means (9, 12) via the door handle (7) contain information whose content is connected to the closure state of the door (5).
- [006] The domestic appliance according to claim 5, characterised in that the operation of the illuminating means (9, 12) arranged in the door handle (7) or connected optically to the door handle (7) is coupled to the locking device of the door (5).

- [007] The domestic appliance according to any one of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the illuminating means (9, 12) arranged in the door handle (7) or connected optically to the door handle (7) are controlled by the appliance internal control system.

- [008] The domestic appliance according to claim 7 comprising at least two illuminating means, characterised in that the operation of the illuminating means (9, 12) is individually controllable.

- [009] The domestic appliance according to claim 8, characterised in that the illuminating means (9, 12) are differently coloured or the door handle (7) is optically connected to differently coloured illuminating means (12).

- [010] The domestic appliance according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that the visual signals emitted by the illuminating means (9, 12) via the door handle (7) contain information whose content is related to the program sequence of the domestic appliance.

- [011] The domestic appliance according to any one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the door handle (7) is covered with a transparent shell (10) at its front.